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Sixty-fourth session

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General Committee

Summary record of the 1st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 16 September 2009, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Treki (President of the General Assembly) (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Organization of the sixty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/64/1 and Corr.1)

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

1. **The Chairman** drew attention to the memorandum by the Secretary-General regarding the organization of the sixty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/64/1 and Corr.1).

Section II. Organization of the session

2. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and said that he trusted that he would shortly receive from each of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly a letter concerning the designation of a liaison person for the duration of the session.

3. *The Committee took note of all the relevant information contained in section II of the memorandum. It decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to all the necessary information, in particular the information contained in paragraph 38 of the memorandum concerning the timely submission of draft proposals for the review of their programme budget implications, and to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take action on all the proposals contained in that section. It also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the information contained in paragraph 43 of the memorandum on the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the use of the phrase "within available resources" and the Advisory Committee's views on the responsibility of the Secretariat to inform the General Assembly regarding the availability of resources to implement a new activity.*

Section III. Adoption of the agenda

4. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the draft agenda was organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization as contained in every medium-term plan, or in the strategic framework, with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

Paragraphs 49 to 51

5. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 49 to 51 of the memorandum.*

Inclusion of items

6. **The Chairman** said that, since the agenda was organized under nine headings, the Committee might wish to consider the inclusion of items under each heading as a whole. However, the Committee might wish to take separate decisions on certain items, where it was deemed appropriate, including in some cases the placement of items under appropriate headings.

7. The draft agenda contained nine new items, namely item 62 under heading B (Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences) and item 123 and items 160 to 166 under heading I (Organizational, administrative and other matters).

Paragraph 52

Items 1 to 8

8. **The Chairman** drew attention to paragraph 52 of the memorandum. Items 1 to 8 were not under any heading. The General Assembly had already dealt with items 1 to 3. Items 4 to 8 related to organizational matters.

9. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of items 1 to 8.*

Heading A. Maintenance of international peace and security

Item 19. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte

10. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly, at the 104th plenary meeting of the sixty-third session, had decided to include item 19 in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session. It was his understanding that the representatives of France and of the Comoros had agreed to retain this item in the provisional agenda. He therefore took it that the General Committee wished to defer the consideration of the issue to a later date.

11. *It was so decided.*

Item 41. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India

12. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly, at the 2nd plenary meeting of its sixty-third session, had decided to include item 41 in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session.

13. **Mr. Monthe** (Cameroon), supported by **Mr. Parham** (United Kingdom), said that, following consultations with the delegations involved, and without prejudice to the positions of those countries, his delegation proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 41 should be deferred to its sixty-fifth session.

14. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 41 should be deferred to its sixty-fifth session and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda for that session.*

15. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading A, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 19 and 41.*

Heading B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

Item 62. Agriculture development and food security

16. **The Chairman** said that the item had been placed on the provisional agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/235.

17. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 62 under heading B.*

18. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading B, taking into account the decision taken regarding item 62.*

Heading C. Development of Africa

19. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading C.*

Heading D. Promotion of human rights

20. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading D.*

Heading E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

21. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading E.*

Heading F. Promotion of justice and international law

22. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading F.*

Heading G. Disarmament

23. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading G.*

Heading H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

24. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading H.*

Heading I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

Item 123. Global health and foreign policy

25. **The Chairman** said that the item had been placed on the provisional agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/33.

26. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 123 under heading I.*

Item 160. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

27. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 160 had been requested by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (A/64/141).

28. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 160 under heading I.*

Item 161. Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly

29. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 161 had been requested by Switzerland (A/64/142).

30. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 161 under heading I.*

Item 162. Observer status for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the General Assembly

31. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 162 had been requested by the United Republic of Tanzania (A/64/144).

32. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 162 under heading I.*

Item 163. Observer status for the International Olympic Committee in the General Assembly

33. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 163 had been requested by Italy (A/64/145). The representative of Italy had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

34. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Terzi di Sant'Agata (Italy) took a place at the Committee table.*

35. **Mr. Terzi di Sant'Agata (Italy)** said that, as recognized at the World Summit, sport represented a tool for development and peace. The strong association of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations was a fact and, as an observer in the General Assembly, it would make a greater impact on the Organization's agencies and programmes.

36. *Mr. Terzi di Sant'Agata (Italy) withdrew.*

37. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 163 under heading I.*

Item 164. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

38. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 164 had been requested by Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (A/64/191).

39. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 164 under heading I.*

Item 165. Sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

40. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 165 had been requested by Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (A/64/192).

41. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 165 under heading I.*

Item 166. Observer status for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa in the General Assembly

42. **The Chairman** said that inclusion of item 166 had been requested by Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia (A/64/193).

43. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 166 under heading I.*

44. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading I, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 123 and items 160 to 166.*

Section IV. Allocation of items

Paragraphs 53 to 55

45. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 53 to 55.*

Paragraph 56

46. **The Chairman** said that, in paragraph 56 of his memorandum, the Secretary-General had listed items

of the draft agenda which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to decide on the recommendation it should make regarding the allocation of those items, recommended for inclusion in the agenda for the sixty-fourth session.

47. *It was so decided.*

Paragraph 60

48. **The Chairman** recalled that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 54/195, any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary meeting after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee. The Committee would therefore proceed accordingly with the consideration of items 161, 162, 163 and 166 concerning observer status.

Item 62. Agriculture development and food security

49. **The Chairman** said that, pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 63/235, the Secretary-General had requested that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

50. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 62 should be allocated to the Second Committee.*

Item 123. Global health and foreign policy

51. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had requested that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

52. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 123 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 160. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

53. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had requested that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

54. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 160 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 161. Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly

55. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 161 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 162. Observer status for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the General Assembly

56. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 162 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 163. Observer status for the International Olympic Committee in the General Assembly

57. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 163 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 164. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

58. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had requested that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

59. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 164 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 165. Sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

60. **The Chairman** said that the sponsors had proposed that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

61. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 165 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 166. Observer status for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa in the General Assembly

62. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 166 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 44. Report of the Economic and Social Council

63. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 61 and decided to recommend that the General Assembly, when considering item 44 in its entirety in plenary meeting, should take note of the clarification that, in implementing resolution 58/316, the relevant parts of chapter I of the report of the Economic and Social Council would be considered by the Main Committees concerned, under agenda items already allocated to them, for final action by the Assembly.

Item 50. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

64. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 62.

Item 50. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

65. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 63.

Item 54. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

66. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 64 and 65.

Item 64. Advancement of women

67. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the suggested allocation for the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

Item 71. Promotion and protection of human rights

68. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 67.

Item 96. General and complete disarmament

69. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 85.

Item 105. International drug control

70. The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 69.

Item 107. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

71. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should hear a brief presentation by the Secretary-General of his annual report prior to the opening of the general debate.

Item 118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

72. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 118 should be allocated to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

Item 128. Programme planning

73. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 128 should be allocated to all the Main Committees and to the plenary of the General Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

Item 137. Administration of justice at the United Nations

74. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 137 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee and to the Sixth Committee in the light of resolution 63/253 and decision 63/531.

Item 66. Report of the Human Rights Council

75. **The Chairman** said that during the sixty-third session, the report of the Human Rights Council had been considered in plenary meeting and also had been allocated to the Third Committee.

76. **Mr. Cancela** (Uruguay) reiterated his country's position that the report of the Human Rights Council should be considered directly in plenary meeting. His delegation was disappointed by the allocation of the item to the Third Committee, a backward step in institutional terms for the Council which failed to recognize the negotiations finalized during the Council's fifth session and adopted by consensus. As in the previous year, his delegation accepted the majority decision but believed that the allocation must not be deemed a precedent. The written record must include a reference to that effect and the item must be reassessed during the following year.

77. **Mr. Parham** (United Kingdom), endorsing the position of Uruguay, said that his delegation had a long-standing strong preference for the entire report of the Council to be considered in plenary meeting owing to its unique status, the importance of its work and the spirit of its founding resolution. The United Kingdom was prepared again to support the suggested compromise on the basis that it should be spelled out that the solution was for the current year only and did not establish precedent. It was his delegation's wish that the same wording as in the previous session (A/63/252/Add.2) should be used.

78. **The Chairman** said that, having heard the statements just made, he would suggest that the General Committee should recommend that item 66 should be directly considered in plenary meeting and also allocated to the Third Committee.

79. *It was so decided.*

Plenary Assembly

80. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 66, 123, 160, 164 and 165.*

First Committee

81. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 85, 118 and 128.*

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

82. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 41, 118 and 128.*

Second Committee

83. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 62, 64, 118 and 128.*

Third Committee

84. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 66, 118 and 128.*

Fifth Committee

85. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 118 and 128.*

Sixth Committee

86. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 118, 128, 137, 161, 162, 163 and 166.*

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.